Communities remember

Front page of Rutland Herald, May 30, 2000

VYTO STARINSKAS/RUTLAND HERALD

Veterans from several wars join Vietnam veterans at their memorial in Main Street Park, which was dedicated Monday before hundreds of onlookers.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER ONE

INVITES THE RESIDENTS OF RUTLAND COUNTY AND OTHER VERMONTERS AND VISITORS TO ATTEND THE DEDICATION OF THE RUTLAND COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL ON MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 29 AT 2 P.M. AT THE SOUTH END OF MAIN STREET PARK, IN RUTLAND. THIS EVENT WILL HONOR THE MEN AND WOMEN FROM RUTLAND COUNTY WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR FROM 1959 TO 1975 AND ALL VETERANS.

PARK PLACE Florist & Garden Center
72 Park St.
Rutland, Vt.
775-2626

Paul's Cleaners
Serving Rutland
Since 1910

PONDEROSA Steakhouse
Lunch
Dinner
Route 7 South, Rutland

RAYMOND & SHARON
NUTTING
USED CARS
363 WEST STREET, RUTLAND
775-0091

The Hearth & Cricket Stove Shop
SINCE 1967
Daryle Thomas, Proprietor East Wallingford, VT 05742
(802) 259-2841

LERTOLA'S TOYOTA
99 South Street, Proctor, Vt.
459-2800

TOSSING FUNERAL HOME
39 Washington Street
Rutland, VT 05701 • 773-7633
The Hart Family

Thank You!

Chapter 1 of the Vietnam Veterans of America gratefully acknowledges the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their significant contributions to the Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial and to the many other donors.

Please attend the dedication of the memorial Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day) at the south end of Main Street Park at 2 p.m.

Advance Music Centre	Henry A. Goddard	Pittsford Mills
Alderman's Chevrolet	Richard and Pamela Green	Pleuss-Stauffer Industries
American Legion Post 31	Green Screen Graphics	R.C. Pond Co.
American Legion Post 49	Greenbrier Gift Shop	Pratico's Landscaping & Fence
Anything Graphic	Greg's Auto	Proctor Coal Co.
Appliance Service Center	Harned Fowler Post 6741, VFW	Don Ramey
Steven J. Banik, P.E.	Hawley's Florist	Tom and Carol Reardon
Best TV & Appliance	Head West	Reprographics of New England
Michael T. Boston	Howard Johnson's	Donald Robichaud
Effie and Russell Brooks	Ted Hubbard	Dennis Ross
Cabot Creamery Coop	Johnson Energy	Pete Ruby
J.P. Carrara & Sons	Kentucky Fried Chicken	Rutland Kiwanis
Carris Foundation	Killington Ski Area	Rutland Fuel
Carris Reels	Tom Lafond	Rutland Garden Club
Holiday Inn	Leather Fashions	Rutland Marble & Granite Co.
Central Vermont Public Service	Lertola's Toyota	Seasons Circle
David Cleary	Maple Meadow Farm	Sensible Shoe
John Clogston	Hugh S. McLeod III	Sevigny's Hunting & Fishing
John Colombo	McDonald's (Rutland)	Norman Sevigny
Comfort Inn	Merriam Graves	Fale Shepard
Cortina Inn	Midway Diner & Restaurant	Mr. and Mrs. Joe Silva
Cyclone Ventures	Buddy and Jim Miles	Smalley Contractors
Densmore Electric	Mintzer Brothers	Stafford Tech. Eng. Design Class
Design Graphics	Elizabeth Moulton	T & T Tractor
Paula and Joe Donaldson	Kevin Mullin	Talk of the Town Hairstyling
John A. Drew	National Railroad Passenger Corp.	Town of Rutland
H.A. Eddy	New England Outdoors	Vermont Crane Service
Edson Det., Marine Corps League	N.H. International Speedway	Victoria Crossing
Eli's Auto Body	Noonan Transportation Co.	VFW Post 648
Essential Alternatives	Otter Creek Brewing	F.W. Webb
Edward Fabian Earth Moving	Bob Parker, Architect	West Rutland Rotary Club
First Vermont Bank	Party Store	Westminster Crackers
Christine F. Giddings	Patch's Petroleum	Westside Press
John and Elizabeth Gilligan	Paul's Cleaners	Laurie Wilson
Gill's Deli		

BRILEYA'S
YOUR AUTHORIZED DEALER
CHRYSLER • PLYMOUTH • JEEP
Route 7 North (802) 773-3555 1-888-773-3551
Rutland, Vermont

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291 South Main, Rutland
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RUTLAND REGION PHYSICIAN GROUP
160 ALLEN STREET, RUTLAND
Family Practice / Internal Medicine
Cardiology / Endocrinology / Pulmonary Medicine
at 7 locations throughout the region
747-3916

H&R BLOCK
INCOME TAX
The Income Tax Specialists
98 Allen St., Rutland, VT 05701

ARTHUR'S AUTO
"Your Quality Auto Parts Rebuilder Since 1975!"
Passenger & Commercial Units Serviced
Radiators Repaired & Recored
Alternator, Generator & Starter Rebuilding
775-3406
Post Road, Rutland Town
A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

FISKE ELECTRIC
Bill Fiske,
Licensed Master Electrician
35 Years Experience
117 Spruce Street, Rutland
775-4880

AMERICAN LEGION
POST 31
33 Washington Street, Rutland
773-9777

CONGRATULATIONS
V.V. #1 on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
and
To all Veterans on Memorial Day
From V.F.W. Post #648
and Auxiliary
Rutland, VT.

MINTZER BROTHERS HOME CENTERS
RT. 7 SO. AT WINDCREST RD. 802/775-0834 RUTLAND
DEAN BROWN IND. PARK 802/228-4665 LUDLOW

JOHN DEERE
T&T
Tractor Equipment, Inc.
Deere Rd & Rt. 3
Proctor, Vermont
802-459-2773

REGIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE
Business: Mon-Fri 773-1746
Emergency: 773-1700
Castleton Area: 468-3100

In honor of Vietnam Veterans & POW-MIA your courage & dedication will never be forgotten.
Associate Member VVA#1
DUTTON REALTY
Castleton, Vermont

RUTLAND HERALD
27 Wales Street
Rutland, Vermont
775-5511

Poultney VILLAGE FURNITURE of BOMOSEEN
Route 4A, Bomoseen, VT
265-8343 • VT toll free 1-800-660-8343
FREE DELIVERY

SMALLEY
CONTRACTORS
General / Mechanical / Electrical
802-775-3011

Russell Brooks
Vietnam Veteran
Joined July 1969 - Discharged June 1970
Thanks for the service to our country
Effie Brooks

Returning a salute

Commentary

John Gilligan

On May 29 I attended the dedication of the Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Main Street Park. My hat is off to John Bergeron and all those who made it a reality. And where better than my old hometown?

Although the ceremony and the size of the crowd were moving, and I met many of my old Mount St. Joseph classmates there, I've been happily sad this evening after returning home to Barre. It was on my mind throughout my drive home, and if I don't write it now, I never will.

Toward the end of the ceremony, I was moving along the back of the crowd with my camcorder. As I moved along, I had to excuse myself often as I cut in front of several people. At the edge of the guest tent, there was a family with small children.

When I said excuse me, a little boy with curly reddish-brown hair, probably no more than 4 or 5 years old, threw me a somewhat nervous salute, and our eyes met for a brief moment. It was probably my Vietnam Veterans of America cap or jacket that prompted his reaction.

With my hands full of camcorder, I didn't return his salute and moved on to take more pictures. However, the picture of this little boy continued to develop in the darkroom of my mind and hasn't left.

'Then in a park in Rutland today a lot of that hurt vanished in a moment with a little boy's salute.'

It reminded me of an old family picture of myself and my uncle, Bernie Riter, in 1945, standing in our front lawn across from Mount St. Joseph. Bernie in his master sergeant uniform and Bronze Star recently returned from service with the Mountain Division in Italy and me at age 4 holding a nine iron upside down like a flag in salute – so proud and in awe of my brave uncle.

Years later my brother Mike and I came home to Vermont from Southeast Asia as Bernie had and many uncles from World War II and Korea before us. Our return in 1969 was reminiscent of a Kingston Trio song of that era, "Doesn't Anybody Know My Name?"

The hurt and spiritual pain inflicted on so many returning veterans by their countrymen was far more devastating than any NVA rocket or bullet could inflict. And many like me buried it, were sickened by it, and carry those invisible wounds to this day. Jaded, cynical and often self-destructive, we coped and lived out our lives as best we could with varying degrees of success. Brother Mike never said much. He died four years ago.

Then in a park in Rutland today a lot of that hurt vanished in a moment with a little boy's salute. In that brief twinkling of a chance encounter, much happened within me.

I felt a renewed optimism that the future of our country and our state need not cause worry and concern. In that young face, I saw a faith in the present, a hope for the future, and a respect for the past.

I looked around for the little family afterwards but was unable to find them. I wanted to return his salute, belatedly, and to thank them for something even better than a parade or monument. Perhaps his parents will read this and give him a hug for us. They must be very fine parents to have taught him that.

So I am returning that salute with this letter, and although my eyes might be a little damp when I retire tonight, I want to thank Vietnam Veterans of America No. 1, Rutland, and a tousle-haired little guy for a wonderful day. You have done good. And the terms duty, honor, country aren't just words. They live on with you.

John Gilligan of Barre is a retired U.S. Air Force captain and a retired state purchasing agent.

Vietnam Veterans Of America

Chapter One

May 2000

Dedication of Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2 P.M., Main Street Park, Rutland

Chapter 1 is pleased to invite its members, their friends and families and the general public to the much-anticipated dedication of the Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 29 at 2 p.m. in Main Street Park in Rutland.

As this newsletter is written, the Memorial Committee of Chapter 1, headed by Andy Moschetto, is pushing hard to complete the memorial and to finalize details of the ceremony. The concrete walkway of the memorial has been poured and stamped with a cobblestone pattern, the flagpole is up, and the plantings area has been filled in with topsoil. The center sculpture is complete and ready for delivery. Engraving of the names of those killed in action will be done shortly.

Here is the outline of the ceremony as it stands now:

Entrance of color guard to bagpipe accompaniment. Raising of colors

Invocation by Rev. Gil Ott of Poultney

Welcome by Rutland Mayor John Cassarino

Chapter 1 President John Bergeron provides some background on the chapter and the sculpture of the soldier that forms the centerpiece of the memorial

Thanks from Andy Moschetto to many supporters of the memorial project

Musical selection

Unveiling of marble sculpture, completed by Don Ramey

Reading by Mary Margaret Ryan and Barbara Gleason of honor roll. Presentation of flowers to family members. Flowers will be placed near engraved names on the base of the sculpture.

Firing squad salute

Taps and echo

Benediction

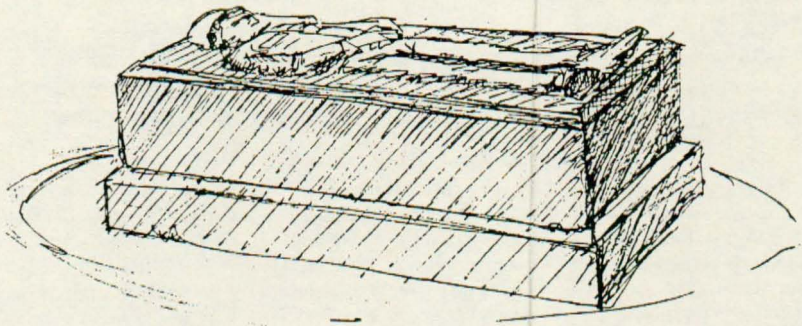
Although the memorial project was largely conceived and executed over the last four years, it owes much to the spirit of early efforts at self-help by local Vietnam veterans: Donald Bodette, Jake Jacobsen, Albert and Mary Trombley, Mike Dodge, Dennis Ross and Mark Truhan, among others. And it was John Reno's idea for a marble sculpture, and his early work on the sculpture, that spawned the idea for the memorial itself.

Sadly, Bodette, Dodge, Ross and Reno are not with us to share this tribute to their efforts and to the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans. Without them, however, this occasion would not have arrived.

Please come to our ceremony and honor them and all who served.

DEDICATION

Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial



FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN FROM RUTLAND COUNTY
WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR
1959-1975
AND FOR ALL VETERANS

May 29, 2000
2 O'clock
Main Street Park, Rutland

Sponsored By:
Chapter 1
Vietnam Veterans of America

HONOR ROLL

Killed in Action

Allen Archer, Rutland
Edward Birmingham, Rutland
Roger Clark, Pittsfield
Gilford Dashner, Shrewsbury
Richard Dexter, Rutland
Joseph Fish, Rutland
Phillip Greene, Poultney
Gary Hall, Shrewsbury
Edward Henry, Clarendon
Harvey Howard, Danby
Joseph LaRose, Clarendon
Bruce Morrison, Proctor
Steven Pettis, West Haven
Joseph Silva, Rutland
John Sweeney, Poultney
David Underhill, Rutland
Kenneth Weightman, Wallingford
Dennis Wilbur, Sherburne

Served in the Vietnam War

Bruce Adams, Clarendon
Chris Allen, Pawlet
Robert Ahlquist, Rutland
Mason Alexander, Poultney
Gordon Austin, Castleton
Douglas Barrett, Rutland
Michael Barron, Rutland
Myles Bethel, Poultney
Donald Bodette, Rutland
Thomas Bromley, Danby
Russell Brooks, Wells
Charles Brough, Castleton
Jerome Brown, Rutland
Frank Bump, Proctor
Larry Cameron, Rutland
Leo Carvey, Castleton
Robert Carvey, Castleton
Louis Cendrowski, Rutland
William Champine, Proctor
Donald Chioffi, Rutland
Edward Chisamore, Wallingford
Salvatore Clarino, Rutland
Gary Clark, Rutland
John Clogston, Rutland
Howard Cobb, Rutland
Jon Cole, Rutland
Glen Coltey, Rutland
Richard Coltey, Rutland
Alton Coolidge, Wallingford
Bartley Costello, Rutland
Thomas Costello, Rutland
Ben Cram, Castleton
Olin Deforge, Rutland
Joe Donaldson, Rutland
John Drew, Pittsford
Wilbur Dubray, Rutland
Stanley Dulski, Rutland
Michael Dunn, Rutland
Charles Dupre Jr., Rutland
Chester Eaton, Rutland
John Eaton, Rutland
Richard Fenton, Rutland
William Fitzgerald, Rutland
Stephen Frankiewicz, Rutland
Bradley Frederick, Wallingford
Walter Frederick, Wallingford
Thomas French, Wallingford
Carl Fuller, Hubbardton
Kenneth Gee, Rutland
David Gilman, Rutland
Barbara Gleason, Rutland
David Gouchoe, Rutland
Edward Grabowski, Rutland
Thomas Grace, Pittsford
Ronald Hall, Shrewsbury
Detlef Hansen, Shrewsbury
George Herrick III, Wallingford
William Higgins, West Rutland
John Holden, Clarendon
Kenneth Hollman, Rutland
Walter Hollman, Rutland
Clark Howland, Rutland
Edward Hults, West Rutland
John Jozwiak, Rutland
Dale King, Rutland
Edward Lafond, Rutland
Thomas Lafond, Rutland
Michael LaPiana, Rutland
Edward Lapine, Proctor
Joseph Lynch, Rutland
Thomas McGann, Rutland
Terrance McLaughlan, Rutland
Hugh McLeod, Rutland
Harold McLeod, Rutland
Adrian Megrath, West Rutland
Jon Melen, Rutland
William Merrill, Rutland
Edward Merrow, Danby
James Merrow, Rutland
Eugene Miner, Rutland
Donald Monahan, Rutland
Ralph Morgan, Pittsford
Thomas Neary, Rutland
Arthur Nemeth, Wallingford
John O'Flaherty, Rutland
Richard Parrott, West Haven
James Patten, Rutland
Carroll Paul, Castleton
George Petty, Rutland
Charles Popovitch, Rutland
Alphonse Poremski, Pittsford
David Potter, Rutland
Mitchell Preedom, Rutland
Norbert Rafter, Rutland
Donald Ravenna, Rutland
Thomas Reardon, Rutland
Nathaniel Reed, Clarendon
Albert Reynolds, Wallingford
Louis Rousseau, Rutland
James Ryan, Mendon
Mary Margaret Ryan, Rutland
David Sargent, Chittenden
Phil Savery, Rutland
Norman Sevigny, Rutland
Robert Sharp, Rutland
Thomas Sheehan, Rutland
Richard Sheridan, Rutland
Hadwin Sherman, Wallingford
Roland Smith, Brandon
Jonathan Snow, Brandon
Michael Snow, Brandon
Glenn Spaulding, Rutland
Charles Spencer, Clarendon
Richard Spooner, Chittenden
Harold Swanson, Rutland
William Sweeney, Fair Haven
Ernest Taylor, Brandon
Donald Thompson, Rutland
Albert Trombley, Rutland
David Vadnais, Castleton
Gary Wetmore, Proctor
Leon Whipple, Proctor
Tom Whittaker, Brandon
Lawrence Young, Rutland

Corrections/Additions: Vietnam Veterans of America, Ch. 1, PO Box 6301, Rutland, VT 05702-6301

PROGRAM

Entrance of Color Guards With Bagpiper James Perlee

Opening – John Bergeron, Pres. Chap. 1 VVA

Flag Raising

Invocation – Rev. Gil Ott‡

Mayor's Welcome – Hon. John Cassarino

The Memorial – John Bergeron

Special Thanks – Andrew Moschetto, Memorial Chairman

Recognition of Vietnam Veterans Present

Reading of the Honor Roll – Mary Margaret Ryan & Barbara Gleason†

"Who We Are, Who We Were" – James E. Ryan*

Rifle Salute by Vietnam Veterans

Taps and Echo – Names of 2 Kids

Benediction – Rev. Ott

‡Rev. Gil Ott is minister of the Poultney United Methodist Church. He is a combat veteran of Vietnam, having served with the 101st Airborne Division.

†Mary Margaret Ryan and Barbara Gleason Venbjerg served as Army nurses in Vietnam during 1967-68, including the time of the Tet Offensive.

* James E. Ryan of Northfied is a native of Rutland and a graduate of MSJ and UVM. He spent 8 years in the Air Force, reaching the rank of captain. During 1971-73, he flew more than 200 combat missions in F-4 Phantom fighters and B-52 bombers over Southeast Asia as a navigator and bombardier. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism. He is currently an assistant professor of criminal Justice at Norwich University in Northfield.

Following the ceremony, those attending will be able to take a fragment from the stone chips created in the carving of the sculpture.

FROM JOHN RENO'S STRUGGLE CAME A SOLDIER CARVED IN STONE

The stone that lies at the center of this memorial lay as an abandoned remnant from an old marble plant until Vietnam veteran John Reno used it for an artistic expression of his war and post-war experiences.

John had struggled with depression and recurring flashbacks following his Vietnam service. Begun in 1981, the sculpture became a means to work through his anger and pain. But when he died suddenly in a boating accident in 1982, his artistic vision of a soldier lay neglected for years in a Fair Haven quarry.

Finally in 1995, a fellow Vietnam-era veteran, John Bergeron, went hunting for it. The rediscovery and the symbolism of the stone became a focal point for the memorial that surrounds it.

A sculptor from West Rutland, Don Ramey, graciously took on the task of completing the sculpture as a tribute to veterans, applying his own creativity and skills to John's basic concept.

This memorial was sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1, based in Rutland, whose first members were among Reno's close friends. The memorial was made possible by the generous contributions of scores of businesses and individual supporters.

Special Thanks

Memorial Committee: Andrew Moschetto (chair), John Bergeron, Jack Crowther, Ernest Smalley, Valerie Cleary, Laurie Wilson

Dedication Committee: John Bergeron, Andrew Moschetto, Jack Crowther, Jim Ryan, Mary Margaret Ryan, Donna Risley, Tom Reardon, Steve Faye, Bill Higgins, Bob Rummel

Sculpture: Don Ramey

Landscaping: Rutland Garden Club

Memorial Design: Stafford Technical Center Engineering Design Class, Mike Handley (winning design)

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 1

(7/27/00)

Advance Music Centre
Merchants Row
Rutland, VT
PA for ceremony

Alderman's Chevrolet
Attn. Phil Alderman
PO Box 6287
Rutland, VT 05701-6287
$100

American Legion Post 31
33 Washington St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$300

American Legion Post 49
Main St.
Fair Haven, VT 05743
$100 donation

Don and Sharon Amorosi
14 Catherine St.
S. Glens Falls, NY 12804
$25

Anything Graphic
Attn. Norma Montaigne
Route 7
Pittsford, VT 05763
graphic services

Appliance Service Center
152 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
vacuum cleaner--$250 value
no longer there

Allen Archer's aunt
$5

Paula Baker
Windy Lane
North Clarendon, VT
made copies

Steven J. Banik, P.E.
503 Crown Point Rd.
Shrewsbury, VT 05738
Structural engineering services

Douglas C. Barrett
RR1 Box 3625
Fair Haven, VT 05743-9710
$10

Best TV & Appliance
120 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25 donation

Michael T. Boston
60 Franklin St.
Brandon, VT 05733
$100

Effie & Russell Brooks
RFD Box 1021
Wells, VT 05774-9604
$25, in honor of Russell

Cabot Creamery Coop Inc.
Attn. Margaret
128 Main St.
Cabot, VT 05647
$500

Cal's Barber Shop
canister

J.P. Carrara & Sons
PO Box 60
N. Clarendon, VT 05759-0060
Concrete

Carris Foundation
PO Box 696
Rutland, VT 05702-0696
$500

Carris Foundation
PO Box 696
Rutland, VT 05702
$1,000 (same as donations above and below?)

Carris Reels
PO Box 696
Rutland, VT 05702-0696
Employee owners
$500 (different from donation above?)
ask Tom Reardon

Center Sport Health Club
Attn. Betty Polzello
Holiday Inn
411 S. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
2 1-month memberships

Central Vermont Public Service Corp.
Attention Hilde Sparrow
77 Grove St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$250

Chris
$10

Edith Clark
RD #1 Box 122
Shrewsbury, VT
$20

Valerie and David Cleary
South Mendon Rd.
Mendon, VT 05701
coordination of landscaping for Garden Club (Valerie)
landscaping donation (David)

John Clogston
Briarwood Lane
Rutland, VT 05701
drafting services for monument design

Ira Colby
Vermont Tubbs

John Colombo
6973 Southridge
Riverside, CA 92506
$10

Comfort Inn
PO Box 493
Killington, VT 05751
1 night's accommodations/Queen Suite

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 2

(7/27/00)

Cortina Inn
Attn. Bob and Breda Harnish
103 US Rte. 4
Killington, VT 05751
real ultimate weekend for 2, $125 value; thanks to Cheryl

Cyclone Ventures
553 Conklin Rd.
Conklin, NY 13748
$25

Leif Dahlin, Supt.
Rutland Dept. of Recreation & Parks
39 East Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
general support of project

Densmore Electrical Supply Inc.
90 Cleveland Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$30

Design Graphics
Attn. Mark Godnick
225 S. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
Routing of memorial sign

Deter Security Inc.
Attn. Steve Faye
223 S. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
Contribution

Stanley Dolski
major fund raiser

Paula and Joe Donaldson
1 Sharon Dr.
Fair Haven, VT 05743
$100

John A. Drew
RR 3 Box 7211
Rutland, VT 05701-9268
$25

Eastman's
66-70 Merchant's Row
Rutland, VT 05701
$10 gift certificate

H.A. Eddy
Rutland
100 gallons of fuel
sold to another company

Edson Detachment
Marine Corps League
PO Box 101
Rutland, VT 05702-0101
$100

Eli's Auto Body Inc.
Attn. David & Janet Vadnais
PO Box 1525
Castleton, VT 05735
$25

R.A. Ellis Inc.
P.O. Box 462
Castleton, VT 05735-0462
mulch

Essential Alternatives
22 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25 gift certificate

Edward Fabian Earth Moving
1409 Pleasant St.
West Rutland, VT 05777
Cleanup, topsoil & other services

Russell Farmer
RR 2 Box 7390
Rutland, VT 05701
$10

First Vermont Bank
77 Merchants Row
Rutland, VT 05701
$50 savings bond

Flory's Snackbar & Diner
canister

Libby Forte
38 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$10 toss pillow

Sandra Gartner
1 Piedmont Dr.
Rutland, VT 05701
$75

Christine F. Giddings
Parker Hill Rd.
Pittsford, VT 05763
$100 donation

John and Elizabeth Gilligan
A-6 Westview Condominiums
122 Batchelder St.
Barre, VT 05641
$50 in memory of Michael T. Gilligan
John B.--got address from member list, OK?

Gill's Deli
68 Strongs Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25

Mr. Henry A. Goddard
PO Box 13
Poultney, VT 05765--0013
287-9867
$130

Grand Union
Attn. Susanne Marsh
823 Main St.
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065
$15 food voucher

Richard and Pamela Green
Loop Road
Poultney, VT 05764
cotton candy machine

Green Screen Graphics
Attn. Mike Gauthier
122 Merchants Row
Rutland, VT 05701
Design and painting of sign, screen printing of display panels

Greenbrier Gift Shop
Attn. Kathy Iannantuoni
PO Box 286
Killington, VT 05751
silk flower bouquet

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 3

(7/27/00)

Greg's Auto
Greg Danyow
74 Strongs Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25

Mike Handley
156 Henry Cowgill Rd.
Camden Wyoming, DE 19934-2758
winning design

Harned-Fowler Post 6741 VFW
PO Box 181
Manchester Center, VT 05255-0181
$200

Hawley's Florist
29 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$10 gift certificate

Head West
Attn. Craig Averill
Green Mountain Plaza
Route 7 South
Rutland, VT 05701 [old address-moved]
$25 gift certificate
out of business?

William C. Herrick
2274 Patriot Dr.
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Highway Dept. official
$10

Howard Johnson
378 South Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
2 night stay ($130 value)

Ted Hubbard Sr. Inc.
1712 Cold River Rd.
North Clarendon, VT 05759
portable toilet

Johnson Energy
PO Box 12 Rt. 4A
Center Rutland, VT 05736
100 gallons of fuel oil

Mike Keith Inc.
RR 1 Box 1125-10
Brandon, VT 05701
$10

Kentucky Fried Chicken
153 South Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$15.35 family meal

Killington
Kathi Altobell
Killington Road
Killington, VT 05751-9708
2 1-day ski passes, $48 each

Tom LaFond
122 Crescent St.
West Rutland, VT 05777
painting services

Leather Fashions
155 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25 gift certificate
out of business?

Lertola's Toyota
Rt. 3
Proctor, VT 05765
$100

Maple Meadow Farm Inc.
RR 1 Box 365
Salisbury, VT 05769-9730
2 qts. maple syrup

Hugh S. McLeod III
43592 Rivergate Dr.
Clinton Township, MI 48038
$50 donation

McDonald's
Charles Coughlin
PO Box 6004
Rutland, VT 05702-6004
$25

McNeil & Reedy
81 Merchants Row
Rutland, VT 05701
cologne--$20 value

Al Melanson Co. Inc.
126 Spruce St.
Rutland, VT 05701
metal to support sculpture

Merriam Graves
Attn. Donald L. Monahan
184 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
donated helium tank for jamboree

Midway Diner & Rest.
120 S. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$20

Buddy and Jim Miles
Concrete Concepts
172 St. John St.
Rutland, VT 05701
Concrete work

Lilian (sp?) Miller
5 Kingsley Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$10

Mintzer Bros.
Attn. Allen Gartner
Windcrest Road
Rutland, VT 05701
10 nail bags and materials

Mr. Twitter's
Attn. Becky and joe Rizzi
Route 7 North
Rutland, VT 05701
donated all the flowers and pavers

Elizabeth Moulton
PO Box 361
Castleton, VT 05735
468-5703
$50

Kevin Mullin
RR 1 Box 4127
Oxyoke Dr.
Rutland, VT 05701
$50

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 4

(7/27/00)

National Railroad Passenger Corp.
Marketing Dept.
555 East St.
Rensselaer, NY 12144
2 round trip tickets to NYC, val. $100 ea.

New England Outdoors
Attn. Mike Pratico
217 South Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
2 shirts--$15 each

New Hampshire International Speedway
Attn. Susan Gelinas
PO Box 7888
Loudon, NH 03301
2 tickets for Indy racing league Aug. 17, $55 value

Noonan Transportation Co. Inc.
9 Noonan Lane
West Rutland, VT 05777
transport services

Otter Creek Brewing Inc.
85 Exchange St.
Middlebury, VT 05753-1106
Mugs worth $25

Pasqually's
162 N. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
canister

Bob Parker, Architect
24 ½ Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
architectural services

Party Store
Nancy Foley
Rutland, VT
75 balloons

Paul's Cleaners
293 N. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$50

Pittsford Mills
Attn. Bob Fish
Route 3
Pittsford, VT 05763
Donation of wood for sign

R.C. Pond Co. Inc.
RR 3 Box 7262
Rutland, VT 05701
$100

Mr. and Mrs. Poremski
Box 2303
Whipple Hollow Rd.
Florence, VT 05744
$20 check

Dave Potter
PO Box 426
North Clarendon, VT 05759
$20 donation

Pratico's Landscaping & Fence Co.
Attn. Skip Pratico
21 Mansfield Place
Rutland, VT 05701
30% discount on plantings plus 2 trees ($175 ea.) donated in honor of his late father, a POW in WW II

Proctor Coal Co.
41 School St.
Proctor, VT 05765
$30

Patch's Petroleum
102 Meadow St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$50

Pleuss-Staufer Industries Inc.
61 Main St.
Proctor, VT 05765
$100

Price Chopper
38 Rutland Shopping Center
Rutland, VT 05701
flowers for dedication
present in person

Don Ramey
57 Campbell Ave.
West Rutland, VT 05777
sculpture

Tom and Carol Reardon
RD 2 Box 2648-A
Whitehall, NY 12887-9569
$50
hand deliver

Reprographics of New England
Attn. Mike Kelley
230 N. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
reproductions for display boxes and mounting of KIA pix

Donald Robichaud
206 Stow Rd.
Harvard, MA 01451
$200

Dennis Ross
RR 4 Box 2174
$25
deceased (send to survivor?)

Rutland Kiwanis
PO Box 6143
Rutland, VT 05702-6143
Marble bench worth $290

Rutland Fuel
156 Granger St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$75

Rutland Marble and Granite
Attn. John Socinski
680 East Hubbardton Rd.
Castleton, VT 05735
marble

Rutland Motors
261 Chase Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
$10

Rutland Garden Club
c/o Irene Carbine
52 Litchfield Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
landscaping

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 5

(7/27/00)

Rutland Printing Co.
Attn. Sam Bellomo
267 Lincoln Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
discount on thank-you certificates

Steve Sarli
144 Park St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$10

Seasons Circle
20 Wales St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$20 gift certificate

Sensible Shoe
Attn. Greg Fineberg
Box 7014 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
2 tees, $27 value

Sevigny's Hunting & Fishing
PO Box 749
West Rutland, VT 05777
$100

Norman Sevigny
PO Box 7
West Rutland, VT 05777
$50

Faie Shepard (phone bk. spelling)
RD 3 Box 3409
Brandon, VT 05733
Contributions

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Silva
73 Baxter St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$20

Smalley Contractors
Attn. Ernie Smalley
228 West St.
Rutland, VT 05701
construction services (David Frost, Raymond Parker, Michael Buley, Patrick Towne)

Stafford Technical Center
Attn. Laurie Wilson
Mountain Top Road
Chittenden, VT 05737
Engineering Design Academy Class of '99

William Sweeney
$20 in memory of Jerry Collier (KIA 2/17/68)
B Co.-9th Eng. 1st Marine Div.
Indiana

T & T Tractor
Attn. William Taranovich
Deere Rd and Route 3
Proctor, VT 05765
$60 gift certificate

Talk of the Town Hairstyling
9 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25 gift certificate

Temptation Station
50 Merchants Row
Rutland, VT 05701
$5 gift certificate
out of business

Tire Warehouse
South Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$15

Tomasi's
2 Liberty St.
Fair Haven, VT 05743
ripoff tickets provided steady income totaling in the thousands of dollars

Board of Selectmen
Town of Rutland
Town Offices
Route 4
Center Rutland, VT 05736
$1,000

Victoria Crossing
17 Center Street
Rutland, VT 05701
spray perfume--$25 value

Vermont Crane Service
Attn. Peter Giancola
6 Edgewood Dr.
Rutland, VT 05701

VFW Post 648
15 Wales St.
Rutland, VT 05701
$100 donation, plus POW/MIA flag

VFW Post 648 Auxiliary
15 Wales St.
Rutland, VT 05701
American flag

FW Webb
Steve Pulling
Cold River Rd.
Rutland, VT 05701
$25.00

West Rutland Rotary Club
West Rutland, VT 05777
$200
mailing address?

Westminster Crackers
8 Ranbury Rd.
Rutland, VT 05701
2 cases

Westside Press, Inc.
16 Marble St.
PO Box 135
West Rutland, VT 05777
free printing of jamboree poster, $40 value

Wilk Paving Inc.
Route 4
West Rutland, VT 05777
asphalt

Wilson Country Camera
37 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
QuickSnap Camera--$13.50 value

Woodshop Specialty
Mike Shanahan
Post Road
Rutland, VT 05701
$10

Rut. County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Donors 6

(7/27/00)

CONTRIBUTORS TO DEDICATION

Bill Anderson
local stockbroker
get address from John B.
paid for bagpiper

Brown family
49 S. Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
sign on porch

Pat Dunn
43 South Main St.
Rutland, VT 05701
allowed use of hose and water and electric outlet across from memorial (from phone book, James J., need to check)

Dedication Committee members:
Mary Margaret Ryan
4 Killington Ter.
Rutland, VT 05701

Dawn Hance
James Ryan
Donna Risley
Barbara Gleason Venbjerg
G-9 Stonehedge Dr.
S. Burlington, VT 05403

High School ushers and buglers recruited by M.M. Ryan

High School buglers

Beth Peters
35 Forest St.
Rutland, VT 05701

Scott Kauffman - 6 Meadow Lake Dr., Meadow Rutland
Ushers

Jonathon Bove
PO Box 1852 Station A
Rutland, VT 05701

Meagan Barrows - 137 Baxter St., Rut
Richard Sweet PO Box 1083 Rutland

Jessie Hammond
180 Baxter St.
Rutland, VT 05701

Matthew Sharp - 6 Blue Ridge Hts. Meadow 05701
Jessica Larson - PO Box 378 Pittsford 05763

Jessica Ryan
4 Killington Ter.
Rutland, VT 05701

Kaitlin Bailey
Mountain Top Rd.
Chittenden, VT 05737

Hon. James M. Jeffords
728 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
speech

Hon. Patrick J. Leahy
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
donation of flag

Prime Offset
Attn. Nasro Mesli
150 Woodstock Ave.
Rutland, VT 05701
donation of printing of 700 programs

Rev. Gil Ott
10 Main St.
Poultney, VT 05764
Poultney United Methodist Church
invocation and benediction

Rutland Police Department
Attn. Chief Anthony Bossi
City Hall
Rutland, VT 05701
traffic control

Rutland Fire Department
Attn. Chief Gerald Lancour
104 Center St.
Rutland, VT 05701
watering of plants, aerial photo

Rutland Herald
Attn. Glenda Hawley and Joan Hill
27 Wales St.
Rutland, VT 05701
advertising space and support

Rutland Herald
Attn. Jo-Anne MacKenzie, City Editor
27 Wales St.
Rutland, VT 05701
news coverage

Tents for Events
Attn. Shawn Keith and Bill Reuther
Plains Road RR 1 Box 1147
Pittsford, VT 05763
tent for ceremony

Mr. Jeff Wennberg
15 Grandview Ter.
Rutland, VT 05701

RUTLAND
REPUBLIC OF VERMONT

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
CHAPTER ONE
PRESIDENT: JOHN BERGERON
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: ANDREW MOSCHETTO

PROJECT:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter One - Rutland, Vermont

PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

* To erect a Memorial/Monument on Rutland City property, in honor of all men and woman from the Rutland County area who served in the United States armed forces during the Vietnam War.
* To include a plaque dedicated to all Veterans from Rutland County who served during all past wars and conflicts.
* To include as a central part of the memorial, a large block of marble which a deceased member of VVA # 1 had begun to sculpt in 1982.
* To raise the funds necessary to complete the project (approximately $20,000) through grants, dances, raffles, jamborees, etc.
* To meet with city, state and federal officials to gather support for project.
* To Contact Contractors, Artists, Community Clubs etc. about cost-out project.
* To attempt to complete project by the second week in August 1997, to coincide with the Second Annual

RUTLAND
REPUBLIC OF VERMONT

Vermont Vietnam Era Recognition Day Ceremonies which will be hosted in Rutland by VVA Chapter # One.

LOCATION OF MEMORIAL: (tentative)

* West side of S. Main Street; South of Washington Street. In Memorial Park Area to be designated and approved by local leaders.

SIZE OF MEMORIAL:

* Approximately 500 sq. ft.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

* VVA Chapter One is the founding chapter of a 753 Chapter Nationwide Organization dedicated to assist all Vietnam Veterans successfully live their lives to their fullest potential especially after enduring service in a military endeavor that became extremely unpopular as time progressed. Many years after the founding of VVA in Rutland, Vermont it was decided by Chapter Members to establish a memorial for local Vietnam vets. A Vietnam Vet, John Reno, began sculpting a donated block of marble, which was to be the centerpiece of the planned memorial. However, in 1982, John Reno died in a boating accident, and the project was temporarily put aside.

In 1995, upon locating the unfinished block of marble near an overgrown quarry, current VVA Chapter President, John Bergeron resurrected the memorial project by forming a committee to complete the task. The idea that Rutland, the city in which VVA was

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
1ST IN THE NATION
POW
MIA
CHAPTER ONE
RUTLAND
REPUBLIC OF VERMONT

founded, to be the site of a small memorial has garnered much support from Rutland to Washington, and most appreciative of all are the Vets from the area. They are overjoyed with the prospect of having their own memorial, a place to sit and meditate, a place to go to for reflection, and to think of buddies who never came home; a place to heal their own wounds and the wounds of all Americans in all past conflicts; and a place to feel peace, and to hope for peace for the future.

ATTACHMENTS:

* Copies of newspaper articles
* Copy of artist rendering of project

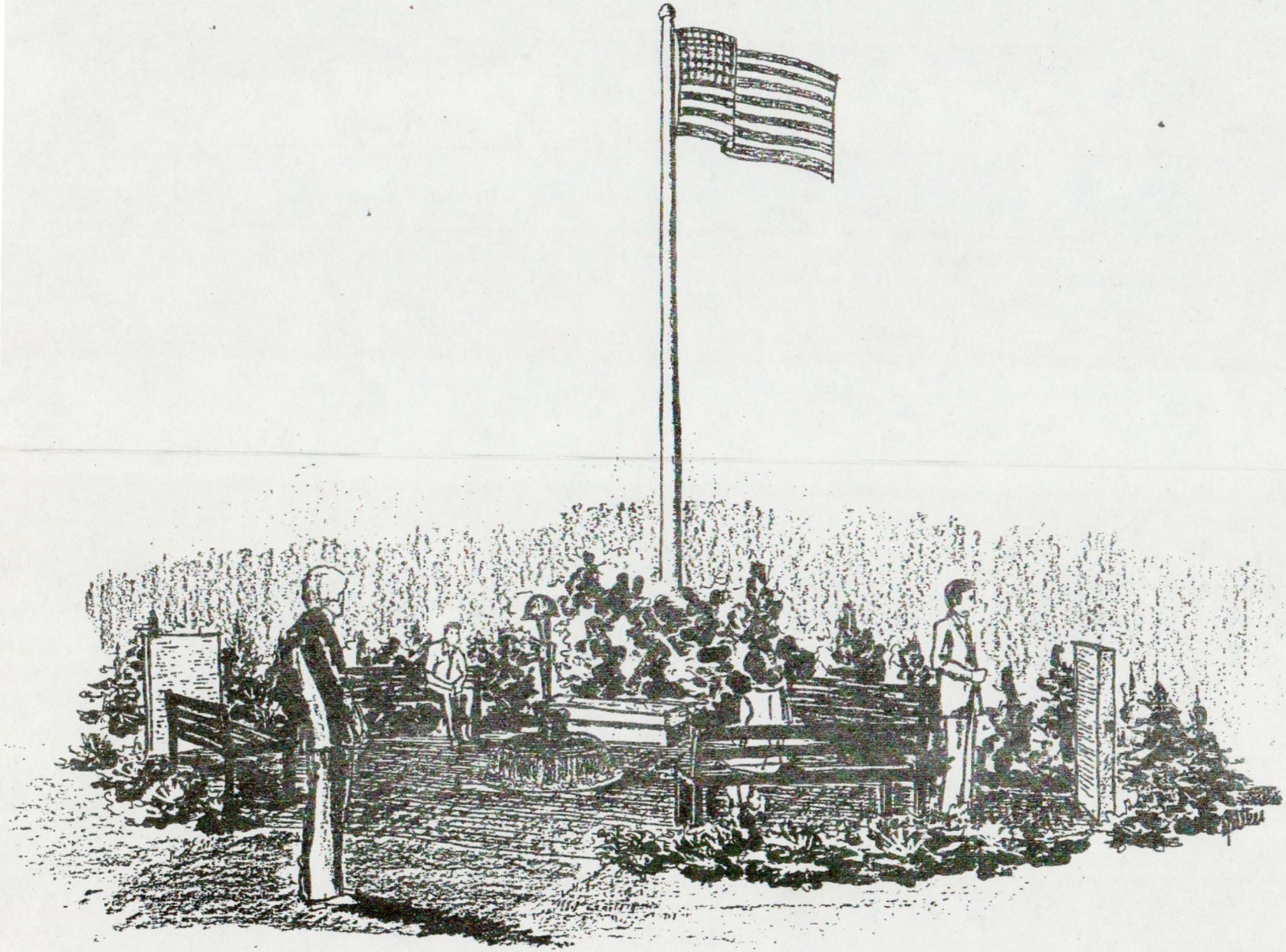
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

* Memorial will consist of a landscaped area surrounding a marble block with bas relief sculptor of a soldier.
* Four benches in garden-like setting for reflection and meditation.
* A field cross (bronze) fountain wherein a helmet/rifle/boots will sit on a marble slab in a fountain in the center of the memorial.

NOTE:

* The bricks & architect's drawing have been generously donated thus far; and greatly appreciated!

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER ONE
P.O. Box 6301, Rutland, VT 05702 802-775-6772
"Our God, Our Honor, Our Duty, ALWAYS"



9/2/96

Vietnam Veterans Plan Memorial in City Park

By LIZ ANDERSON
Herald Staff

Rutland City officials and area Vietnam veterans will meet this week to discuss the veterans' proposal to install a memorial in Main Street Park.

The veterans envision a roughly 500-square-foot, partially enclosed garden and terrace that will function as a tribute to area residents who served in the Vietnam War and be a place for reflection for all who visit.

They expect to detail their ideas in a meeting Thursday with city Recreation and Parks Superintendent Leif Dahlin. Board of Aldermen President David Sagi is also expected to attend, according to John Bergeron, president of the local chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America.

"Certainly I'm supportive of the idea," said Dahlin, who said he planned to listen to the proposal and then "begin the research of how to go about doing it so we can put something in place that will be appropriate and visible."

"What I'll be doing is taking it from there and reporting to the Recreation Committee, which then will get it to the Board of Aldermen and the mayor and, of course, I'll just check on any restrictions, conditions, as to how we would proceed with this," Dahlin said.

Bergeron said several members of his group have met regularly throughout the summer to discuss ideas for the memorial, which is expected to include a three-ton marble carving begun a decade and a half ago by an area veteran who died before it was finished.

Early on, Bergeron said, the

(See Page 13: Memorial)

Memorial

9/2/96

Continued from Page 11

group's focus was on the piece of marble and what to do with it, a question that had them stumped.

"Then somebody said we should have a place to go, to meditate, to reflect, and right away this mental block we had just evaporated," he said.

Bergeron said he and group member Andrew Moschetto quickly came back with similar designs.

Since then, he said, members have been soliciting estimates from area vendors and artisans to determine how much such an idea would cost. Bergeron said the estimates run anywhere from $15,000 to $20,000.

The current plan is to create an oblong brick terrace flanked on four corners with plantings and benches. Two sides would bear plaques listing the names of veterans killed in Vietnam or possibly all veterans who served in the conflict, and might possibly give facts about the war and the country of Vietnam.

On a third side would rest the marble carving, which Bergeron said a local sculptor has volunteered to complete with the full figure of a soldier.

In the center of the park, the veterans hope to have a bronze fountain in the shape of a "field cross" — a configuration of a bayonet, boots and helmet used to commemorate a fallen soldier.

Bergeron said the veterans' group plans to begin fund raising for the project once they have the final plans fleshed out and OK'd by the city.

Staff for Sens. Patrick Leahy and James Jeffords and Rep. Bernard Sanders are currently researching whether any grant money is available to help fund the memorial, Bergeron said. Several area artisans and merchants have also offered to donate their services or materials either for free or at cost, he said.

The group hopes to dedicate the memorial either Aug. 9, 1997 — the date a statewide Vietnam-era recognition day will be celebrated in Rutland — or on Veterans Day in November 1997, he said.

"I think the time is now, because the longer we prolong it, it may never get done," he said.

Rededication

On Memorial Day of 2000, Chapter 1, Vietnam Veterans of America dedicated this memorial in honor of the men and women from Rutland County who served in the Vietnam War. We intended, further, to honor all of the country's veterans, as expressed in the granite marker below the flag.

Our goal today is to rededicate the memorial for future generations, so that the service and sacrifice of the county's Vietnam veterans will be remembered. To that end, we are replacing the original sculpture that served as a centerpiece of the memorial. Signs of its aging caused us concern that its years were numbered.

We will continue to remember John Reno, who began the original carving, completed by West Rutland sculptor Don Ramey. Happily, Don has now provided us a new sculpture, carved from high-quality Danby Imperial marble, in the spirit of the original. Refinements in the new work more specifically reflect the Vietnam experience. We trust it will last for the foreseeable future.

Thanks to all, for your service, in or out of uniform. Thank you for your love of country, your love of home and family, and your love of each other.

Program

Prelude: "Ashoken Farewell"

Welcome Andy Megrath, Chapter 1 president

Invocation — Rev. Pete Hults

Pledge of Allegiance

Remarks — Rutland Mayor David Allaire

Rededication, Honor Roll — Andy Megrath

Recognition of Sculptor Don Ramey

Conclusion: "God Bless America"

Additions to Honor Roll

Gerald Granger, Rutland
Daniel Hogan, Rutland
Paul Hughes, Rutland
Thomas Perry Jr., Fair Haven
Joseph Phillips, Poultney
Stanislaus Reczek, West Rutland
Gary Reilly, Rutland
Edward Robinson, Rutland
John Rogers, Poultney
Thomas Rondeau, Rutland
Nicholas Ross, Rutland
Francis Timbers, Rutland
Mark Treanor, Rutland
Keith Wetmore, Brandon

Special Thanks

Giancola Construction Corp.
Fabian Earth Moving Kenny Heleba
Gawet Marble & Granite
Shaun and Danielle Tomasi

Thank You!

Chapter 1 of the Vietnam Veterans of America gratefully acknowledges the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their significant contributions to the Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and to the many other donors.

Please attend the dedication of the memorial Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day) at the south end of Main Street Park at 2 p.m.

Alderman's Chevrolet
American Legion Post 31
American Legion Post 49
Anything Graphic
Appliance Service Center
Steven J. Banik, P.E.
Best TV & Appliance
Michael T. Boston
Effie and Russell Brooks
Cabot Creamery Coop
J.P. Carrara & Sons
Carris Foundation
Carris Reels
Holiday Inn
Central Vermont Public Service
David Cleary
John Clogston
John Colombo
Comfort Inn
Cortina Inn
Cyclone Ventures
Densmore Electric
Design Graphics
Paula and Joe Donaldson
John A. Drew
H.A. Eddy
Edson Det., Marine Corps League
Eli's Auto Body
Essential Alternatives
Edward Fabian Earth Moving
First Vermont Bank
Christine F. Giddings
John and Elizabeth Gilligan
Gill's Deli
Henry A. Goddard
Richard and Pamela Green
Green Screen Graphics
Greenbrier Gift Shop
Greg's Auto
Harned Fowler Post 6741, VFW
Hawley's Florist
Head West
Howard Johnson's
Ted Hubbard
Johnson Energy
Kentucky Fried Chicken
Killington Ski Area
Tom Lafond
Leather Fashions
Lertola's Toyota
Maple Meadow Farm
Hugh S. McLeod III
McDonald's (Rutland)
Merriam Graves
Midway Diner & Restaurant
Buddy and Jim Miles
Mintzer Brothers
Elizabeth Moulton
Kevin Mullin
National Railroad Passenger Corp.
New England Outdoors
N.H. International Speedway
Noonan Transportation Co.
Otter Creek Brewing
Bob Parker, Architect
Party Store
Patch's Petroleum
Paul's Cleaners
Pittsford Mills
Pleuss-Staufer Industries
R.C. Pond Co.
Pratico's Landscaping & Fence
Proctor Coal Co.
Don Ramey
Tom and Carol Reardon
Donald Robichaud
Dennis Ross
Pete Ruby
Rutland Kiwanis
Rutland Fuel
Rutland Garden Club
Rutland Marble & Granite Co.
Seasons Circle
Sensible Shoe
Sevigny's Hunting & Fishing
Norman Sevigny
Faie Shepard
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Silva
Smalley Contractors
Stafford Tech. Eng. Design Class
T & T Tractor
Talk of the Town Hairstyling
Town of Rutland
Victoria Crossing
VFW Post 648
F.W. Webb
West Rutland Rotary Club
Westminster Crackers
Westside Press
Laurie Wilson

From left, Jack Crowther, Dick Doyle, Andy Moschetto, Tom Skinner, John Bergeron, Tom Reardon, Bill Whitney

Veterans Day 1997 at site of future Vietnam memorial in Rutland

Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Story

Rutland County Vietnam-era veterans will dedicate their war memorial in Rutland's Main Street Park on May 29 at 2 p.m., culminating more than three years of active planning, fund-raising and construction. The public is invited to the event.

The roots of the project actually go back more than 20 years, and the ceremony will trace links to early self-help efforts by local Vietnam veterans. In fact, the centerpiece of the project is a marble sculpture begun in about 1981 by a Vietnam veteran named John Reno, who died in 1982 and had used the sculpting as a form of therapy. Reno died in 1982.

The timing of the ceremony coincides with the federal Memorial Day holiday. Mindful of Rutland's traditional ceremony in the morning at Evergreen Cemetery, Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1, has planned their event for early afternoon.

The ceremony will include a color guard, reading of the honor roll and a speech by James Ryan, a local Air Force veteran of the war who now teaches at Norwich University. The names of the 18 men from Rutland County who died in the war are being engraved on the marble base of the sculpture and will be noted with placement of flowers by family members. Mary Margaret Ryan, a nurse who served in Vietnam in 1967-68, is heading up the honor roll portion of the event. Students from Rutland High and MSJ will assist.

Display boxes will list the names of those who entered the armed forces from the county and served in the war. Collection of those names has been ongoing for several years and is expected to continue, as there has been no easy source of this information. Eligible names may be submitted to VVA Chapter 1 by writing P.O. Box 6301, Rutland, VT 05702-6301 or contacting John Bergeron, president of Chapter 1, at his shoe repair shop on Center Street. A copy of the veteran's DD 214 form is required to substantiate Vietnam service and town of record.

This spring marks the 25th anniversay of the fall of Saigon to the the North Vietnamese, as well as the 20th anniversary of Chapter 1 of Vietnam Veterans of America, making the dedication of the memorial especially timely.

Most local veterans are probably aware that the efforts of Marine veteran Donald Bodette were greatly responsible for the very first Vietnam Veterans of America chapter being located in Rutland. Bodette convinced the founder of the organization, Bobby Muller, that it needed to have a structure of local chapters. Rutland's thus became the first.

Bodette died of cancer on Aug. 10, 1997, but his pioneering efforts will be commemorated on one of the display panels that is being created for the memorial. VVA now lists more than 50,000 members, including about 400 members in six Vermont chapters.

Those killed in action from Rutland County were: Allen Archer, Edward Birmingham, Richard Dexter, Joseph Fish, Joseph Sliva, and David Underhill, all of Rutland; Edward Henry and Joseph LaRose, both of Clarendon; Phillip Greene and John Sweeney, both of Poultney; Gilford Dashner and Gary Hall, both of Shrewsbury; Roger Clark of Pittsfield; Harvey Howard of Danby; Bruce Morrison of Proctor; Steven Pettis of West Haven; Kenneth Weightman of Wallingford; and Dennis Wilbur of Sherburne.

Many have contributed to the completion of the memorial project through donations of time and services, notably the VVA Memorial Committee, headed by Andrew Moschetto of Pittsford; Don Ramey of West Rutland, who completed the marble sculpture; Ernie Smalley of Smalley Contractors, serving as general contractor; and the Rutland Garden Club, which will contribute the landscaping of the site.

Red Sox top Yankees 4-1 in weekend series open

RUTLAND H

DAILY

ESTABLISHED 1794

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2000 RUTLAND, VERMONT

ALBERT J. MARRO / RUTLAND HERALD

Jack Crowther works on the descriptions surrounding the new Vietnam Veterams Memorial on Friday in Rutland's Main Street Park. The Rutland chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America provided the money and services for the memorial.

Due respect

Vietnam Veterans Memorial to be unveiled on Monday

By DAMIAN PAGANO
Herald Staff

Joe Lynch was at work at the Rutland Post Office recently when a young co-worker pointed to the Purple Heart license plate on his car and asked him what it was.

"She didn't know what a Purple Heart meant," he said Friday. "I couldn't believe it."

Lynch, a Vietnam veteran, told her it was a medal given to people wounded in battle. He received his after being hit by shrapnel from a Viet Cong anti-tank rocket in February 1968.

"She just didn't know," he said.

But he hopes that the new Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which is scheduled to be unveiled Monday at 2 p.m. just south of Main Street Park in Rutland, helps to educate young people about the country's longest war and those who served in it.

"I think it's something we need," Lynch said. "We have to get some of the younger people involved."

The memorial has been several years in the making. The monument itself is a 3-ton block of marble carved with the relief of a soldier lying at rest. A Vietnam veteran named John Reno started the project as a way to work through the anger and grief caused by his war experience.

But Reno died in a boating accident in 1982 and his vision went unrealized for several years.

The barely begun sculpture was moved from Reno's Fair Haven home to a sand pit in Castleton. John Bergeron, president of the Rutland Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America, heard about Reno and the marble block and set about tracking it down.

"I was curious about what happened to

See Page A7: **Memorial**

Memorial: New Rutland monument honors veterans of Vietnam War

Continued from Page A1

it," Bergeron said. "So I started knocking on doors ... and one thing led to another and I found it."

To make a long story short, Bergeron took the marble block to the Carving Studio in West Rutland. Don Ramey, a sculptor there, agreed to finish the project for free.

"We talked about what we were going to do with it," Bergeron said. "John Reno had carved the soldier's face and part of a helmet, but it was pretty much unfinished. So we decided to do a relief of this soldier lying at rest. Sort of like a simple tomb."

The next step, Bergeron said, was to compile a list of Rutland County residents who served in Vietnam. The memorial was for them, he said, and he wanted to include everybody.

He wanted to include people like Mary Margaret Ryan and Barbara Gleason — high school friends who enlisted together as nurses on Memorial Day 1967 and who saw the horrors of war while working at an Army field hospital.

He wanted to include people like James Ryan, who earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and flew more than 200 fighter and bomber missions over Southeast Asia.

He wanted to include David Underhill, Joseph Fish, Gary Hall and all of the other Rutland boys who were killed in action.

Bergeron didn't want to miss anyone.

"It took a little longer than we thought, but none of us are in the business of building monuments," he said.

And according to those whose names will appear on the monument, the wait was worth it.

"I am just so amazed at what they've done," Mary Ryan said. "I went to see 'The Wall' and 'The Women's Memorial' in Washington, but this has moved me more. And I think it's because of the sense of community that did this."

After returning from a one-year tour of duty, Ryan said she quietly settled down in Rutland — the city she was raised in. Her medical training as an Army nurse served her well and she got a nursing job at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

Though she was not subjected to front-line combat in Vietnam or the taunts of protestors when she returned to the states, she said she still had a hard time talking about her experience.

"There's just some things you keep inside," she said.

But when high school teachers later asked her to speak to classes about the war, she decided she would start to let some of those things out.

She also got involved with the Vietnam Veterans of America a few months ago. Her job, she said, was to call the families of the 18 Rutland men killed in action and tell them about the dedication ceremony.

"I didn't know how to begin," she said. "I almost had to hang up the phone, because I thought I was going to burst into tears."

James Ryan is slightly more stoic about his experience. He wanted to go to war, he said, because he wanted to see what it was like.

"I'd heard about it and wanted to see for myself," he said. "But once I got my first taste of it, I wanted to leave."

Ryan spent eight years in the Air Force, including several years flying missions over Vietnam.

He will be the keynote speaker at Monday's ceremony, and he said his speech was tough to put together because of the wide range of emotions associated with the war.

"But the thing I learned was that each individual did their duty to the best of their ability over there. There is nothing to be ashamed of in that," he said. "And that can go for the people on both sides."

SATURDAY EVENING MAY 27, 2000

Channel	Cbl	Lcl	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00
BROADCAST STATIONS													
										anger Walker turn from the '14'	News	ER "Dr. Carter, I Presume" Carter's first day as a full-fledged doctor proves hellish. 'PG'	
										mazing) '14'	News	Saturday Night Live '14'	
										ester re. A wild nan.	(11:12) News	(11:42) Baywatch Hawaii Dawn's new love shares some similarities with her ex-boyfriend. 'PG'	
										nits Special" 'G'	Movie ★★★ "Pretty Woman" (1990) An executive plays Pygmalion to a young streetwalker.		
										Amazing A) '14'	Paid Program	Saturday Night Live '14'	
										Ranger (Part 2	News	Howard Stern Radio Show 'MA'	
										Ranger (Part 2	News	WCW Wrestling	
										Amazing A) '14'	News	Saturday Night Live '14'	
										vild newcomer	(11:12) News	(11:42) NYPD Blue "Up On the Roof" '14'	
										vild newcomer	(11:12) News	(11:42) Outer Limits "Descent" '14'	
										Stadium in St.	News		Seinfeld "The Note" 'PG'
										s Vicar of Dibley	Ice Cream Show 'G'		Austin City Limits 'G'
										Reeves, Lori	(10:50) Movie ★★½ "A View to a Kill" (1985) Agent 007 fights a genetic superman bent on world conquest.		
										The Greatest" (1977) Chronicles Muhammad n child to champion.			Trek: Voyager 'PG'
										vild newcomer	(11:12) News		(11:47) Paid Program
										Theatre "Monsignor Renard" '14'		Antiques Road 'G'	Sessions at West 54th
										hanshu in L.A."	Mad TV '14'		Movie Stars (N) 'PG'

'Cause You're Never Too Old To ROCK n' ROLL.

101.5 FM

Updating Memorial 2001

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:	John Bergeron	773-2815 (weekdays, after 2:30 p.m.)
	Jack Crowther	775-1182
RELEASE DATE:	Immediate	July 16, 2001

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1 WILL INSTALL NEW PANELS JULY 28 AT MEMORIAL IN RUTLAND

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1, of Rutland, will install new informational panels at the Rutland County Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Saturday, July 28, at 3:30 p.m. The panels include nearly 100 additional names added in the past year of veterans from Rutland County who served in the war.

Prepared by Green Screen Graphics, which donated its services, the panels are a more permanent and colorful version of those installed at the dedication of the memorial on May 29, 2000, and include the updated honor roll.

The latest honor roll includes the names of the 18 men killed in action in Vietnam from Rutland County and 220 men and women who served in the war.

The search for more names will continue, according to John Bergeron, president of Chapter 1, and the chapter will update the honor roll as appropriate. To be eligible, a veteran must have entered military service while living in Rutland County and must have served in Vietnam between 1959 and 1975. The veteran's DD214 form should be mailed to VVA Chapter 1, P.O. Box 6301, Rutland, VT 05702-6301 or given to a member of the chapter.

-30-

Jake Jacobsen is second from right in front row.

Groundbreaking for Vermont Vietnam memorial in Sharon, 1981